

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## ALUMINUM IN SEPTEMBER 2003

The reported domestic primary aluminum production in September was 216,945 metric tons (t). The average daily production rate was 7,232 t, slightly lower than that of the previous month and 4% below the rate for September 2002. The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot decreased from 67.25 cents per pound in August to 66.94 cents per pound in September, according to Platts Metals Week. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum used beverage cans (UBCs) began the month at 47–49 cents per pound. On September 15, the price range decreased by a penny to 46–48 cents per pound, where it remained through the end of the month. According to Resource Recycling's Container Recycling Report, the average monthly transaction price for

aluminum UBCs decreased from 50.4 cents per pound in August to 49 cents per pound in September.

### Update

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased significantly from 66.94 cents per pound in September to 69.8 cents per pound in October. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum UBCs increased several times during the month of October. On October 2, the price range increased to 47–49 cents per pound; on October 9, 49–51 cents per pound; on October 14, 50–52 cents per pound; and finally, on October 29, 51–53 cents per pound

TABLE 1  
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery <sup>2</sup>			Imports for consumption			Total new supply <sup>3</sup>	Total stocks, end of period <sup>4</sup>
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2002 <sup>5</sup>	2,707	1,750	1,170	2,930	2,790	804	3,600	9,230	1,320
2002:									
September	227	157	102	260	235	70	306	792	1,370
October	235	164	111	276	196	67	263	774	1,360
November	232	148	100	248	264	64	328	808	1,370
December	241	140	91	231	186	61	247	719	1,320
January-September	1,999	1,360	909	2,270	2,150	611	2,760	7,020	1,370
2003:									
January	242	152	96	248	215	69	284	774	1,350
February	220	153	88	241	246	64	310	771	1,390
March	238	143	89	232	350	71	421	891	1,400
April	225	143	99	242	202	69	272	739	1,340
May	228	150	106	256	265	69	335	819	1,390
June	221	139	102	240	261	66	327	789	1,350
July	226	140	97	236	233	74	307	769	1,360
August	225	151	98	249	194	67	261	735	1,360
September	217	149	97	246	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-September	2,042	1,320	872	2,190	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

<sup>3</sup>Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

<sup>4</sup>Includes scrap; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

<sup>5</sup>Includes monthly and annual data.

TABLE 2  
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM  
PURCHASED NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Integrated aluminum companies		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery
2002 <sup>3</sup>	1,850	1,340	869	752	768	713	123	112	9	9	3,620	2,930
2002:												
September	153	114	78	68	72	67	11	10	(2)	(2)	315	260
October	167	126	79	68	77	71	11	10	(2)	(2)	334	276
November	149	111	71	61	71	66	11	10	(2)	(2)	302	248
December	146	107	64	55	63	59	10	9	(2)	(2)	284	231
January-September	1,380	1,030	658	570	612	567	102	93	5	5	2,760	2,270
2003:												
January	147	109	70	60	72	67	12	11	1	1	301	248
February	147	109	66	57	68	64	11	10	(2)	(2)	293	241
March	140	103	59	50	73	69	10	9	1	1	282	232
April	137	102	75	65	71	66	10	9	1	1	294	242
May	143	106	82	71	74	68	11	10	1	1	311	256
June	143	106	74	64	65	60	11	10	1	1	293	240
July	122	89	75	64	78	73	11	10	1	1	286	236
August	133	97	71	62	85	79	12	11	1	1	302	249
September	132	96	70	60	84	79	12	10	(2)	(2)	298	246
January-September	1,250	918	643	555	670	625	98	88	5	5	2,660	2,190

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Less than 1/2 unit.

<sup>3</sup>Includes monthly and annual data.

TABLE 3  
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED  
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN SEPTEMBER 2003<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	110,000	132,000	80,300	96,300
Integrated aluminum companies	69,700	69,700	60,100	60,100
Independent mill fabricators	70,400	84,500	65,700	78,800
Foundries	9,680	11,600	8,740	10,500
Other consumers	298	358	298	358
Total	260,000	298,000	215,000	246,000

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 4  
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN 2003<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

	September				January-September <sup>2</sup>	
	Stocks, opening	Net receipts <sup>3</sup>	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts <sup>3</sup>	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Solids	19,300	80,000	83,700	15,600	700,000	713,000
Can stock clippings	2,770	16,400	17,500	1,670	165,000	165,000
Other clippings	4,870	8,330	8,300	4,900	80,600	81,600
Borings and turnings	5,130	15,700	16,000	4,910	152,000	152,000
Dross and skimmings	2,670	32,100	32,100	2,660	291,000	291,000
Total new scrap	34,700	153,000	157,000	29,800	1,390,000	1,400,000
Old scrap:						
Used casting, sheet, clippings	13,800	31,000	31,000	13,800	287,000	287,000
Aluminum-copper radiators	1,430	1,920	2,190	1,160	15,000	15,800
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	35,300	56,900	57,500	34,700	518,000	510,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	5,830	11,000	10,900	5,880	105,000	100,000
Total old scrap	56,400	101,000	102,000	55,500	926,000	914,000
Sweated pig	168	878	909	138	8,070	8,090
Total all classes	91,300	254,000	260,000	85,400	2,320,000	2,320,000

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Includes revised data from previous month(s).

<sup>3</sup>Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5  
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 2003<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Metric tons)

	September				January-September <sup>3</sup>	
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	3,710	1,490	1,620	3,580	15,200	15,100
380 and variations	7,000	24,700	24,600	7,100	249,000	251,000
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	2,220	4,010	4,030	2,210	36,300	36,200
No. 319 and variations	3,690	8,020	8,100	3,610	86,500	88,000
F-132 alloy and variations	1,220	2,360	2,320	1,260	18,000	18,700
Al-Zn alloys	43	74	74	43	686	676
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	91	168	168	91	1,510	1,510
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	--	191	191	--	1,720	1,720
Other <sup>4</sup>	6,790	6,260	6,270	6,780	62,500	61,300
Wrought alloys:						
Extrusion billets	10,000	17,200	17,100	10,100	157,000	157,000
Total all alloys	34,800	64,400	64,400	34,800	628,000	631,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	7,160	XX	XX	60,100	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	2,780	XX	XX	27,800	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	561	XX	XX	5,570	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot <sup>5</sup>	XX	53,900	XX	XX	535,000	XX

XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Includes revised data from previous month(s).

<sup>4</sup>Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

<sup>5</sup>No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN AUGUST 2003<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	August	January-August	August	January-August	August	January-August	August	January-August
Argentina	5,720	48,800	56	656	--	493	5,780	50,000
Australia	5,830	66,800	1	107	--	9	5,840	66,900
Bahrain	--	2,930	1,200	10,700	--	--	1,200	13,600
Belgium	--	7	302	5,540	--	--	302	5,550
Brazil	3,560	48,800	1,160	13,400	--	2,260	4,710	64,400
Canada	134,000	1,140,000	35,000	296,000	24,200	184,000	193,000	1,620,000
China	71	314	2,860	15,000	--	290	2,930	15,600
France	7	538	503	4,100	20	443	531	5,080
Germany	502	6,080	6,290	46,000	24	635	6,810	52,700
Ghana	--	--	--	--	--	592	--	592
Hungary	--	--	26	986	--	--	26	986
Italy	--	(2)	151	1,330	--	--	151	1,330
Japan	39	185	668	5,360	37	327	745	5,870
Korea, Republic of	6	12	532	4,400	--	--	538	4,410
Mexico	43	2,910	1,200	10,000	6,490	49,600	7,730	62,600
Netherlands	92	356	166	1,760	51	289	308	2,400
Norway	16	253	(2)	113	--	--	17	366
Russia	19,700	460,000	3,980	31,100	--	4,380	23,600	495,000
South Africa	--	4,080	2,660	22,300	--	--	2,660	26,400
Spain	16	87	69	293	--	21	85	401
Sweden	--	(2)	147	2,060	--	276	147	2,330
Switzerland	--	2,090	329	3,050	--	--	329	5,140
United Arab Emirates	5,240	34,300	(2)	2	--	719	5,240	35,100
United Kingdom	428	2,310	362	1,610	533	3,180	1,320	7,100
Venezuela	16,000	137,000	1,910	17,000	1,280	4,910	19,200	159,000
Other	2,200	13,700	7,510	57,900	2,860	25,100	12,600	96,800
Total	194,000	1,970,000	67,100	551,000	35,500	277,000	296,000	2,790,000

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7  
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN AUGUST 2003<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	August	January-August	August	January-August	August	January-August	August	January-August
Australia	32	95	169	1,100	--	126	201	1,320
Belgium	(2)	260	412	2,680	--	40	412	2,980
Brazil	41	85	1,810	12,200	--	--	1,850	12,300
Canada	10,500	77,400	36,500	329,000	10,600	99,800	57,600	506,000
China	--	98	1,140	15,900	23,300	154,000	24,400	170,000
Czech Republic	--	--	8	184	--	--	8	184
Dominican Republic	--	40	46	712	--	--	46	751
France	--	22	442	3,070	--	3	442	3,090
Germany	163	618	376	3,330	77	173	616	4,120
Hong Kong	6	89	848	3,580	2,150	11,800	3,010	15,500
India	--	10	10	225	278	2,690	288	2,930
Israel	6	10	290	1,810	--	3	296	1,820
Italy	(2)	7	226	1,470	--	3	226	1,480
Japan	546	2,460	588	4,380	2,170	16,400	3,300	23,300
Korea, Republic of	--	198	1,260	9,910	4,390	29,700	5,650	39,800
Malaysia	(2)	86	125	718	89	1,290	215	2,090
Mexico	8,920	49,500	10,300	70,800	4,660	33,600	23,900	154,000
Netherlands	4	251	47	445	--	55	51	751
Russia	--	5	1	34	--	--	1	39
Saudi Arabia	1	1	967	9,200	--	--	967	9,200
Singapore	37	103	157	778	--	71	194	951
Spain	1	63	62	1,180	--	131	63	1,370
Sweden	--	3	50	263	--	--	50	266
Taiwan	8	104	2,010	7,540	2,500	18,600	4,520	26,200
Thailand	--	13	388	5,010	83	1,540	471	6,560
Ukraine	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	1
United Kingdom	66	275	629	6,790	41	422	736	7,490
Venezuela	--	--	288	1,570	3	19	291	1,590
Other	40	230	1,510	11,900	1,650	4,620	3,200	16,700
Total	20,400	132,000	60,600	505,000	52,000	375,000	133,000	1,010,000

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.